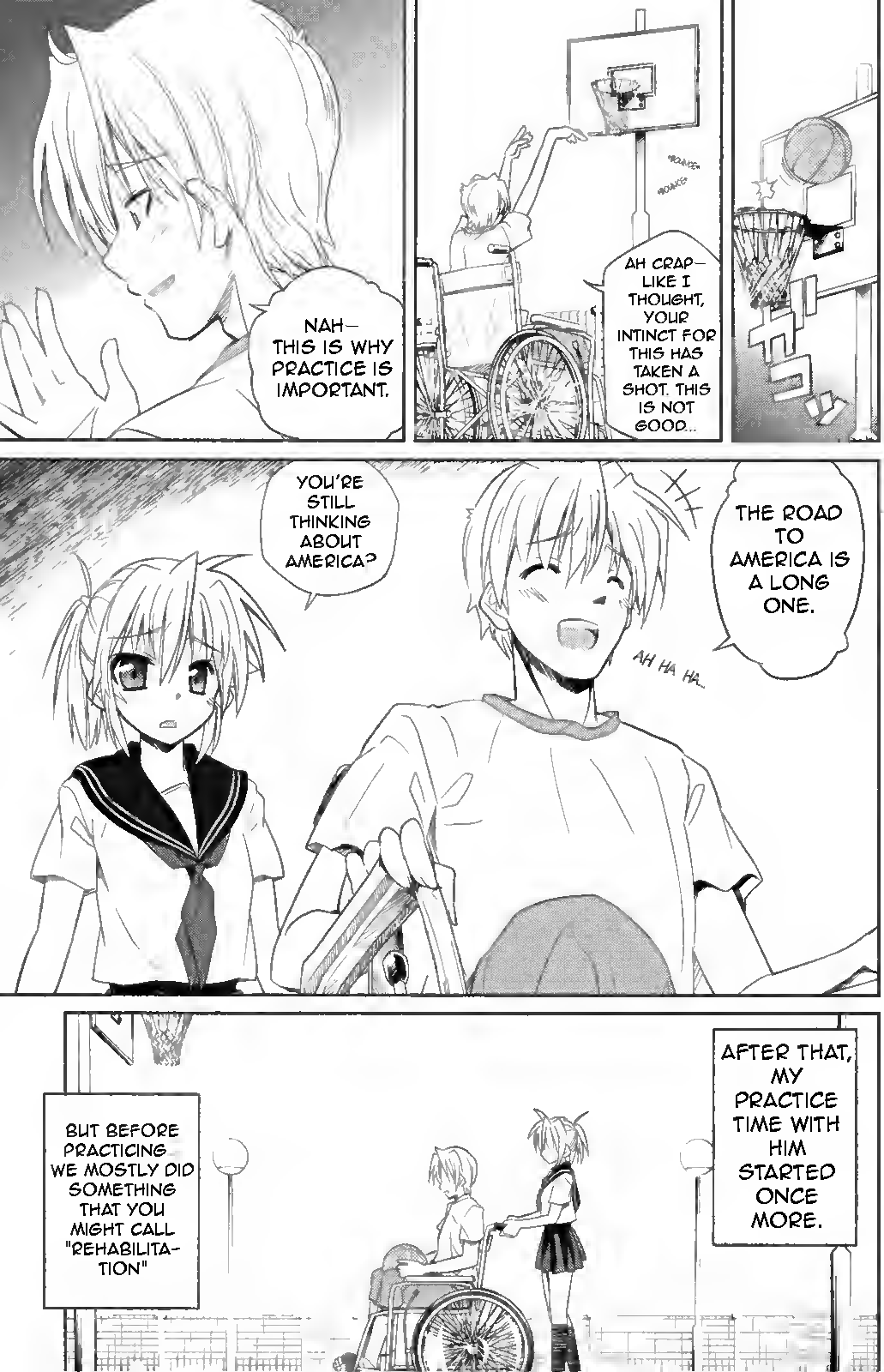
EH—?
OH WELL— IF SUZU-CHAN DOESN'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT, THEN WE'LL LEAVE IT AT THAT...
SO LET'S TALK ABOUT WORK INSTEAD!
TA-DA~♪ "THE PARTS DISTRICT RESTRUCTURING PLAN".
BOR-ING~
SO, WHAT'S UP? YOU'VE BEEN PRETTY EAGER TO DISCUSS THIS SINCE YOU GOT BACK, HAVEN'T YOU?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO HAS STOPPED CARING ABOUT THE WELFARE OF THE DISTRICT LATELY, SUZU-CHAN
DID YOU FORGET THE ZEAL THAT YOU HAD WHEN YOU INHERITED THE STORE?
...AND THEN, THERE'S THE TIMES WE'RE IN.
JUST THINKING THAT YOU WANT TO UPHOLD THE REPUTATION OF THE STORE IS GOING TO DRIVE YOU OUT OF BUSINEESS
IT'S PRETTY HARSH OUT THERE, HUH?

第14話 THE HALF-COURT IN FRONT OF THE STATION (PART 2)

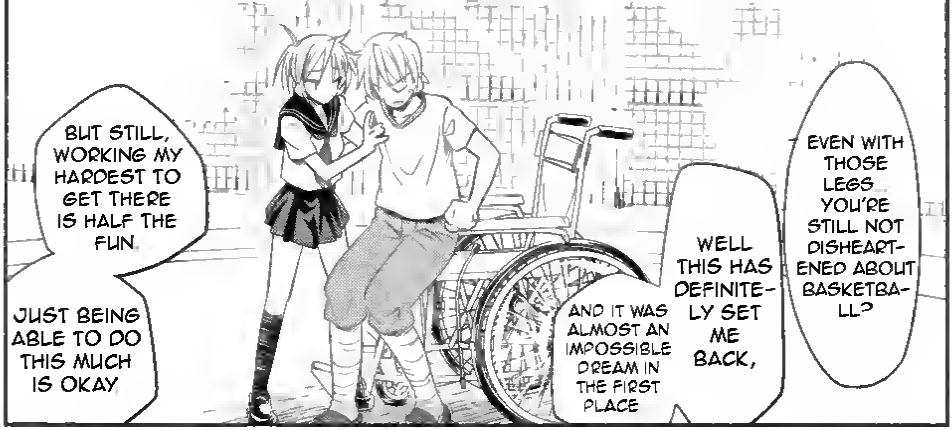
transistor teaset

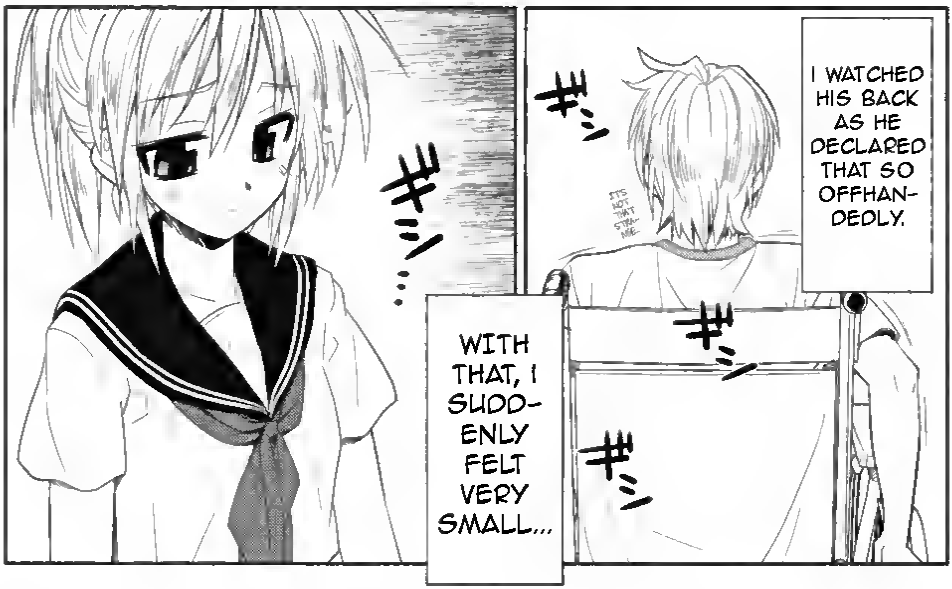
ONE DAY,
THAT GUY STOPPED COMING TO THE PARK.
EVEN SO, I KEPT ON GOING OUT TO THE PARK.
PERHAPS I WAS WAITING FOR HIM TO COME BACK...
EITHER WAY, AFTER I WASTED AWAY SEVERAL DAYS LIKE THAT
HE SUDDENLY CAME BACK...
OH, COOL! YOU'RE HERE.
OR PERHAPS I HAD JUST GONE BACK TO DOING THE SAME THING AS BEFORE. I'M NOT QUITE SURE WHICH.

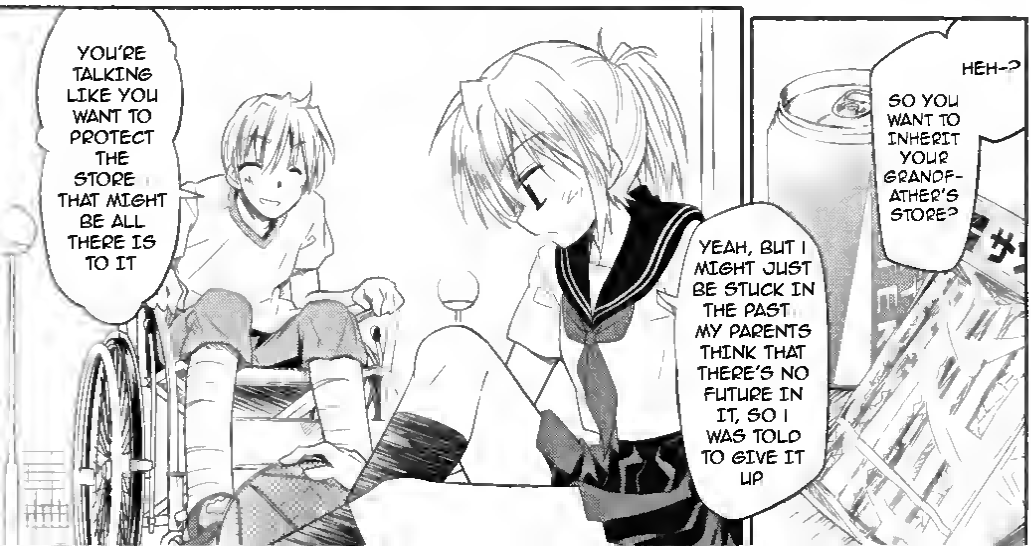
HEY, WHAT'S UP?
W- WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU!? ...THAT CHAIR!
IT'S BOTH OF MY LEGS, SO I'M GOING TO BE IN THIS WHEELCHAIR FOR A WHILE—
WELL— I HAD A BIT OF AN ACCIDENT...
OH? YOU WANT TO HELP ME OUT AGAIN? MY BAD, I SHOULD'VE KNOWN...
BUT, WHAT ABOUT BASKETBALL?
HOI!! PA~SS!
UMM... THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT...


NAH— THIS IS WHY PRACTICE IS IMPORTANT.
BOUNCE BOUNCE
AH CRAP— LIKE I THOUGHT, YOUR INTINCT FOR THIS HAS TAKEN A SHOT. THIS IS NOT GOOD...
SWISH
YOU'RE STILL THINKING ABOUT AMERICA?
THE ROAD TO AMERICA IS A LONG ONE.
AH HA HA...
BUT BEFORE PRACTICING WE MOSTLY DID SOMETHING THAT YOU MIGHT CALL "REHABILITATION"
AFTER THAT, MY PRACTICE TIME WITH HIM STARTED ONCE MORE.

OWW— THERE'S SUCH A THING AS "WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL" SO I THOUGHT I COULD DO AT LEAST THIS MUCH PRACTICE,
ARE YOU OKAY!?
KUHA!
BUT IT'S CLEARLY IMPOSSIBLE IN THIS PIECE OF CRAP
AH HAHA
WELL... THAT'S BECAUSE I HAVE SUCH A HUGE DREAM, RIGHT?
HOW ARE YOU PUSHING YOURSELF THIS HARD...?
HOW...?


EVEN WITH THOSE LEGS... YOU'RE STILL NOT DISHEARTENED ABOUT BASKETBALL?
WELL THIS HAS DEFINITELY SET ME BACK,
AND IT WAS ALMOST AN IMPOSSIBLE DREAM IN THE FIRST PLACE
BUT STILL, WORKING MY HARDEST TO GET THERE IS HALF THE FUN.
JUST BEING ABLE TO DO THIS MUCH IS OKAY


I WATCHED HIS BACK AS HE DECLARED THAT SO OFFHANDEDLY.
WITH THAT, I SUDDENLY FELT VERY SMALL...

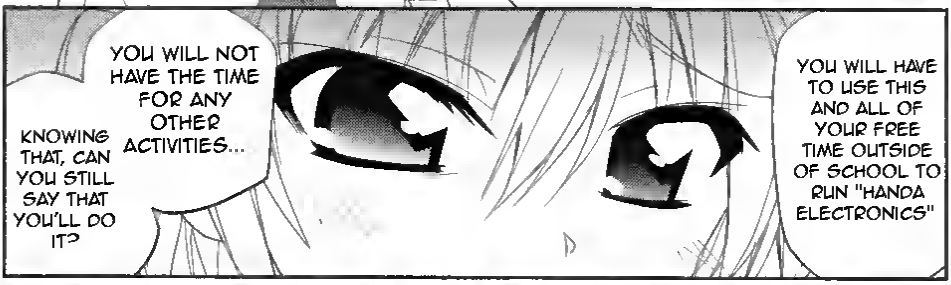

HEH-?
SO YOU WANT TO INHERIT YOUR GRANDFATHER'S STORE?
YEAH, BUT I MIGHT JUST BE STUCK IN THE PAST. MY PARENTS THINK THAT THERE'S NO FUTURE IN IT, SO I WAS TOLD TO GIVE IT UP
YOU'RE TALKING LIKE YOU WANT TO PROTECT THE STORE THAT MIGHT BE ALL THERE IS TO IT

WHY DOES IT ALWAYS HAVE TO GO THAT FAR WITH YOU?
がっ
OF COURSE, IF IT WERE ME, I WOULD MAKE THAT SHOP MASSIVE, OPEN FOR BUSINESS IN AMERICA, AND TURN IT INTO A GLOBAL ENTERPRISE! THAT SOUNDS LIKE ME, HUH?
YOU CAN LET IT TURN BLACK, CAN'T YOU? I ACTUALLY PREFER IT THAT WAY...
!
HEY, YOUR YOUR HAIRLINE IS STARTING TO BLACK.
REALLY? I MUST HAVE TO DYE IT AGAIN... I HAD NO IDEA...
IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE FLIRTING WITH ME, BUT SURELY YOU HAVE SOMEONE YOU'RE GOING OUT WITH ALREADY, RIGHT?
HAHAHA NAAH! I'M TOO SINGLE MINDED WITH MY BASKETBALL TO HAVE TIME FOR DATING
OH...?

UWA!
WHY DID YOU ASK SOMETHING LIKE THAT ALL OF A SUDDEN?
I DID SAY THAT I'D HELP WITH THAT FOOLISH DREAM OF YOUR'S AFTER ALL
LOOK HERE... IF YOU ARE GOING TO GET TO AMERICA, HOWEVER THAT MAY HAPPEN, REHABILITATION COMES FIRST, RIGHT?
...I WILL HELP YOU PRACTI-CE
AS THOUGH HIS GO-GETTER ATTITUDE HAD SPURRED ME ON...
FOR MY PART, I DECIDED TO GET PROACTIVE TOO...
PROMAS

秋葉原
無線商店街
...YOU SAY THAT SUZU-CHAN
BUT DO YOU NOT THINK THAT ATTENDING HIGHSCHOOL WHILE MINDING THE STORE MIGHT BE TOUGH?

I WAS A FRIEND OF YOUR GRANDFATHER... I WHOLEHEARTEDLY SUPPORT YOUR DECISION, BUT STILL...
WELL, TAKE A LOOK AT THIS...
IT LOOKS LIKE OUR COMMUNITY AND OUR SUPPLIERS HAVE PUT TOGETHER A LIST OF THE MINIMUM EXPENSES FOR YOUR STORE...


YOU WILL HAVE TO USE THIS AND ALL OF YOUR FREE TIME OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL TO RUN "HANDA ELECTRONICS"
YOU WILL NOT HAVE THE TIME FOR ANY OTHER ACTIVITIES...
KNOWING THAT, CAN YOU STILL SAY THAT YOU'LL DO IT?

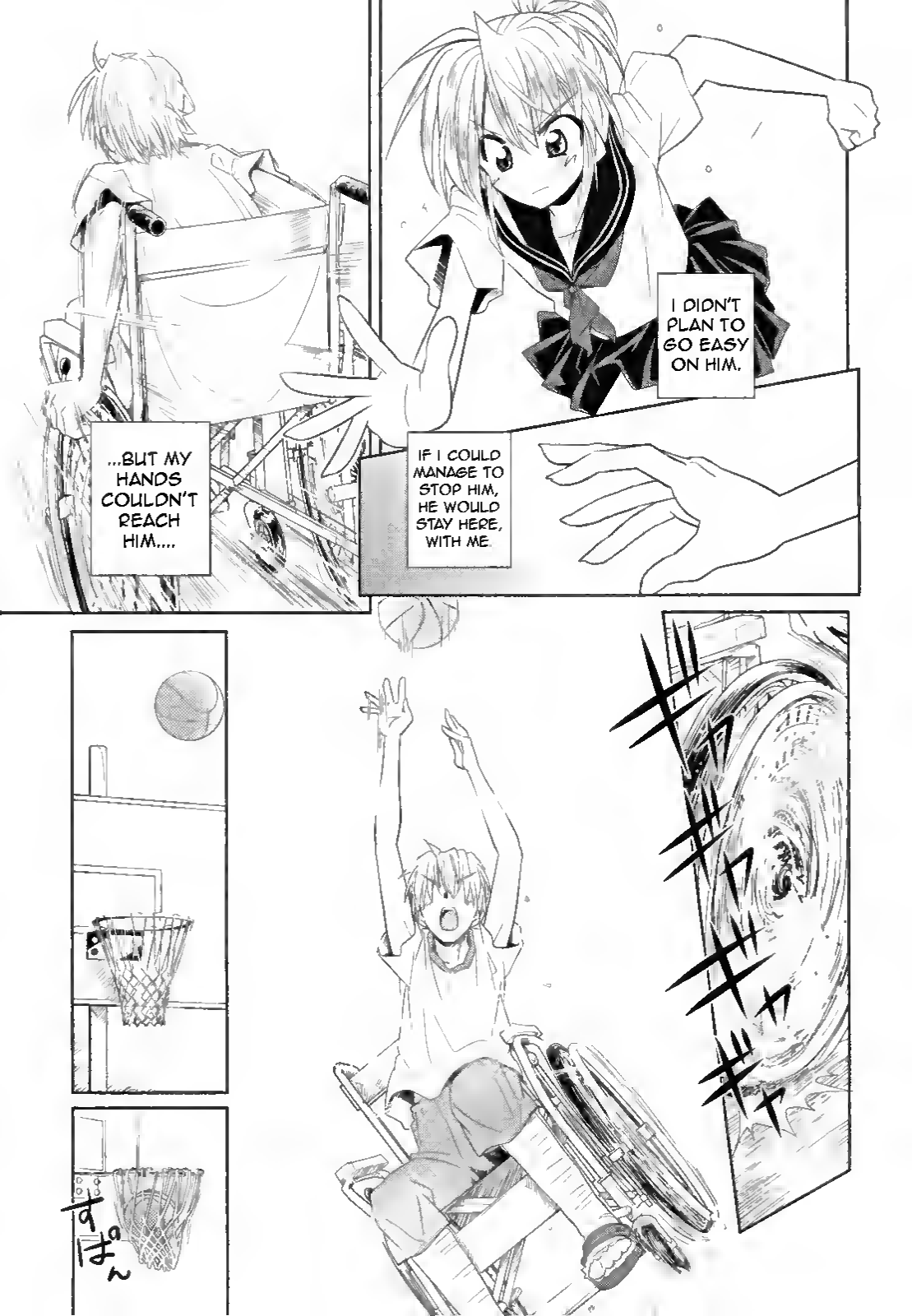
.....
MY PARENTS SAID THE SAME THING...
THERE IS NO WAY THEY'LL LET A DAUGHTER OF THEIR'S DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS
HOWEVER, REALITY WAS NOT THAT ROSY...

WATCH OUT!
UGU!
ガシャン
ガシャン...
OOOW... SO IT'S TOO EARLY FOR THAT, I SEE...
.....
THANKS, FOR HELPING ME

THAT'S ENOUGH... CAN'T WE JUST STOP?
IN THIS KIND OF WORLD, WE CAN'T BE THAT NAIVE...
I'VE REALISED THAT TOO... DOING YOUR BEST ONLY RESULTS IN PAIN...
I THOUGHT ABOUT GIVING UP ON EVERYTHING
I ACTUALLY CRIED MY EYES OUT WHEN IT HAPPENED
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I THOUGHT TOO, ESPECIALLY AFTER MY ACCIDENT
BUT THEN I WONDERED IF THAT RUNAWAY GIRL WAS WAITING THERE FOR ME.
WHEN I CAME TO CHECK, THERE YOU WERE...
I WAS ABLE TO THINK THAT I COULD TRY MY HARDEST AT THE GAME ONCE AGAIN.
...AND WHEN WE PRACTICED TOGETHER, I HAD A REALLY FUN TIME!!

HEY, DELINQU-ENT... I WAS INVITED TO GO TO AMERICA VERY SOON...
IT WAS THROUGH A FIREND OF DAD'S I HAVE A GOOD COACH AND I CAN FINISH MY REHAB OVER THERE
SO I'LL MOVE ONTO HIGHSCH-OOL, AND BE ABLE TO CHALLENGE THE PROS DIRECTLY ...LIKE THAT'LL HAPPEN, HAHAHA!!
...YOU'RE GOING THEN?
HONESTLY? I CAN'T MAKE UP MY MIND
I REALLY ENJOY WORKING HARD AND IT CALMS ME DOWN... BUT MORE THAN THAT, I CAN'T SHAKE THE FEELING THAT I'M TAKING MY FIRST BIG STEP BY GOING THERE...
SO,
LET'S HAVE A 1-ON-1 MATCH!
HUH?

IF I WIN, I'LL GO TO AMER-ICA...
IF I LOSE, I'LL STAY HERE.
BUT THERE'S NO WAY THAT YOU'LL WIN WITH THOSE LEGS!!
THAT'S WHY THIS IS A TEST.
IF I CAN'T GET THE BALL THROUGH WHEN IT'S THIS EASY,
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO PULL OFF ALL OF THE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT STUFF FROM NOW ON?


I DIDN'T PLAN TO GO EASY ON HIM.
IF I COULD MANAGE TO STOP HIM, HE WOULD STAY HERE, WITH ME.
...BUT MY HANDS COULDN'T REACH HIM....
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I DID IT...
FUFU... YEAH, YOU SURE DID...
SO JUST GO.
THAT WAS AMAZING. LOOKS LIKE YOU CAN LEAVE...
I FEEL LIKE I'VE BROKEN THROUGH WITH SOMETHING AS WELL
SO I WON'T NEED YOU ANYMO-RE
OOF!
...WAIT, WHAT DID YOU NEED ME FOR...?
FUFUFU...

DON'T TELL ME DID YOU HAVE A CRUSH ON ME THIS WHOLE TIME?
.....
IT DOESN'T MATTER SINCE IT LOOKS LIKE I'M NOT GOING TO HAVE ANY TIME FOR DATING FROM HERE ON OUT, EITHER

I SEE. SO YOU'RE THAT DETERMINED, SUZU?
I'M SORRY. I'VE BEEN SPEAKING SELFISHLY... BUT I'LL BE SURE TO KEEP MY PROMISE.
黒髪もどし
TURN COLOR
I UNDERSTAND... IT'S IMPORTANT TO DO WHAT YOU WANT TO DO.
HOWEVER, ONLY AFTER YOU ENTER HIGHSCHOOL, OKAY?
ガラガラガラガラ
THANK YOU, MUM, DAD.
半田無線
電子部品各種・抵抗器・コンデンサ
入門キット

THAT'S RIGHT! THERE USED TO BE A COURT RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE STATION
THEY'RE BUILDING OVER IT NOW THOUGH...
DO YOU REMEMBER?
THERE USED TO BE A BASKETBALL COURT HERE, A LONG TIME AGO
THIS IS ABOUT OUR EARLIER TALK,
BUT WHAT IS YOUR DREAM FOR THE STORE, SUZU-CHAN?
MY DREAM? WELL, I DO REMEMBER ONE...
THAT DREAM IS TO MAKE THE SHOP BIG AND OPEN UP SHOP IN AMERICA,
UNTIL IT IS A GLOBAL ENTERPRISE!
HOW ABOUT THAT?
NOW YOU'RE THINKING BIG!!
THAT'S THE RIGHT SPIRIT-♪
AH HAHA!

NOW THEN, THE PLAYER WE ARE LOOKING AT TODAY IS THE BASKETBALL PLAYER ONO
I CERTAINLY CAN'T SAY THAT IM NOT DIAPPOI-NTED
HO!

TODAY IS A SPECIAL LOOK AT THE PLAYER ODO DAI FROM JAPAN
I WORKED ALL THROUGH LAST YEAR AND I STILL DIDN'T MAKE THE OPENING PLAYER REGISTRATION THIS YEAR BUT, YEAH I'M DEFINITELY HOPING TO HAVE MY DREAM GRANTED NEXT YEAR

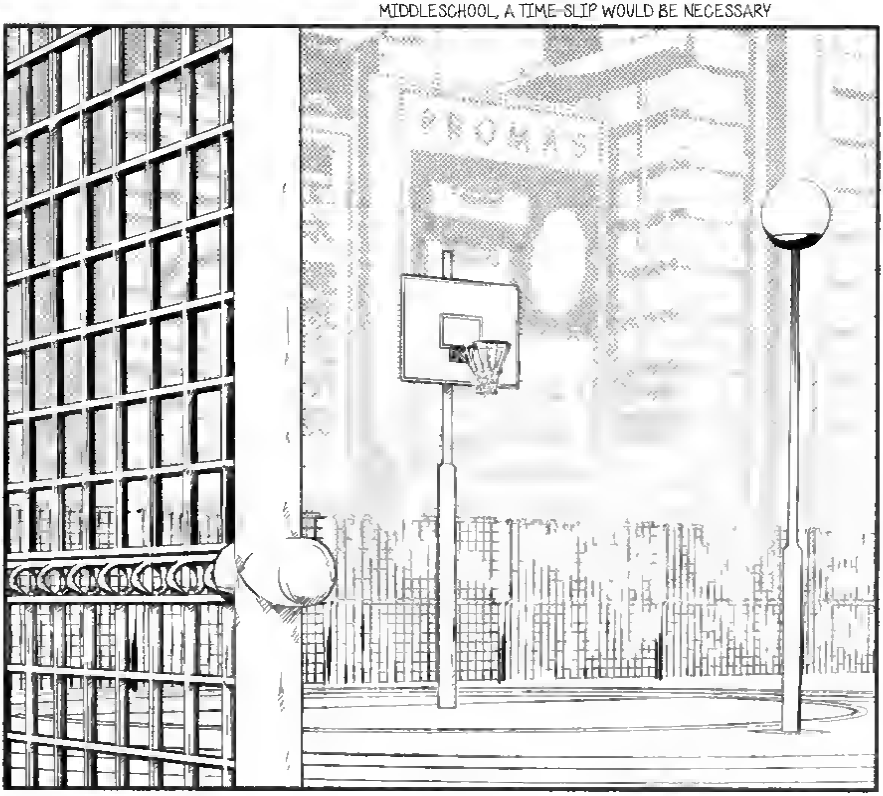
トランジスタティーセット～電気街路図～

transistor teaset

THE AREA IN FRONT OF AKIHABARA STATION

A LONG TIME AGO, THERE WAS A BASKETBALL COURT IN FRONT OF THE STATION.
SOME OF THE OLDER BOYS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD USED TO GATHER THERE TO PLAY STREET BASKETBALL.

BY THE WAY, THE COURT WAS REMOVED IN 2001.
THIS MEANS THAT FOR 'HIGHSCHOOL SUZU' TO WANDER AROUND THE AREA THAT SHE WANDERED AROUND IN MIDDLESCHOOL, A TIME-SLIP WOULD BE NECESSARY.



HIKIKOMORI HONYAKU

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CREDITS

GUMI IS LIFE: REDRAWS, TRANSLATION, TYPESETTING, QUALITY CHECKING.

TAXUEZHENREN (NYAA.SE): RAWS

AFTERWARD:

HEY GAIS, GUMI HERE!

SO YOU GAIS REALLY HATED BBALL-KUN!!

I'M SORRY THAT I COULDN'T PUT A TRIGGER WARNING AT THE START, BUT THIS IS THE LAST OF THE HET BACKSTORY OF SUZU, I SWEAR!!

.....I STILL LIKE HIM THOUGH, HE'S NICE....

WELL UNTIL NEXT TIME,

GUMIISLIFE